

## Pak habitual of violating ceasefire, never want peace with India: Balbir

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, spokesperson, Jammu and Kashmir BJP & former Vice Chairperson, has strongly condemned the recent ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir. The violations, which have taken place in Jammu province in particular, are a matter of concern, which indicate that Pakistan never want peace with India and has no intention to maintain cordial relations as a good neighbour. He said this in a meeting



Spokesperson J&K BJP, Balbir Ram Rattan chairing a meeting.

with party activists, slamming Pakistan for its acts of ceasefire violations on borders. Balbir Ram Rattan expressed deep concern over the impact of these violations

on the lives of security personnel and border residents, emphasizing the need for urgent and appropriate action to ensure their safety and security. He called for

the strict adherence to ceasefire agreements between India and Pakistan, stressing on Pakistan to prioritize peace and stability along the borders.

He said that the former Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, had made serious efforts to develop peace with Pakistan but of no use as our neighbour country does not keep its promise of ceasefire. The Narendra Modi government also wants peace with Pakistan but the incidents of ceasefire violations come in the way. "The BJP stands firmly with the people affected by this crisis and applauds the bravery of our Indian security forces that are resolutely defending our borders," said Balbir Ram Rattan.

He reiterated the party's support for the government's measures to safeguard the nation and its people.

Balbir Ram Rattan expressed satisfaction that the Indian armed forces have been fully responding to Pakistan's aggression with

full force and the recent incident of strong retaliation from Indian side in response to the firing incidents along the LoC in Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district reflects the Indian Army's alertness and preparedness for swift action at any moment.

He emphasized that this response sends a clear message, that under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, no country can dare to make attempt to disturb peace along borders.

Rattan urged unity among the people and called for continued support for the government's efforts to secure the nation's borders. He reiterated the importance of standing together in the face of external threats to ensure the safety of the nation and its citizens.

BJP activists Adrash Jathiar, Hans Raj Loria, Vijay Anand Bahmiki, Chaman Angral, Dr. Ramzan Hussain, Sanjay Kumar, were present in the meeting.

## FOIJ submits memorandum to Dr. Jitendra



FIJ Jammu delegation meeting with Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Federation of Industries, Jammu under the Chairmanship of Lalit Mahajan Chairman along with Ajit Lal Bawa Co-Chairman, Federation of Industries, Jammu and Pardeep Gandotra, chartered accountant, Chairman, Jammu Civil Society, Jammu met Dr. Jitendra Singh, MOS Prime Minister Office, Govt. of India and submitted a detailed Memorandum of various urgent issues related to the Industrial Sector of J&K today at New Delhi. During the course of discussions with Dr.

Jitendra, Lalit Mahajan highlighted the various issues related to the Industrial Sector which includes request to resolve our long pending issue in respect of waiving off of Interest on the Principal amount recovery of Central Excise from the Industrial Units of Jammu & Kashmir in the matter under Notification No. 56/2002-CE dated 14.11.2002, Gross GST Linked Incentives for Existing Units and Units under Substantial Expansion after April 1, 2021, Budgetary Allocation for the Reimbursement of Working Capital/Term Loan on Interest

Subvention for Existing Units and Units under Substantial Expansion after April 1, 2021, Request for the approval of pending Registration Cases with Industries & Commerce Department of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir with the approval 115% of the approved Funds and deviation under of NCSS 2021 Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir; Reimbursement of Road Freight for the dispatch of Industrial Goods to Domestic Market as well as for Export from Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. A meeting was also arranged by Dr. Jitendra Singh with Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary, Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India & members of delegation apprised the current scenario of J&K Industrial Sector to Secretary, Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India.

Dr. Jitendra and Pandey gave a patient hearing and assured the delegation for the early resolution of the issues related to the Industrial Sector of J&K.

## Modi Govt committed to providing 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' under JJM Scheme: Randhawa

### Lays foundation of 450-Metre PHE pipeline at Channi Rama



MLA Bahu Constituency, Vikram Randhawa starting development work.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and MLA Bahu Constituency, Vikram Randhawa today emphasized the BJP government's commitment to "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal", a vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aimed at ensuring safe drinking water to every household.

He asserted that the new pipeline would enhance water supply infrastructure, benefiting hundreds of residents in the area.

The senior BJP leader was

speaking after laying foundation for a 450-metre new pipeline under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) at Salaria Mohalla, Channi Rama, fulfilling the long-pending demand of the residents for clean and uninterrupted drinking water supply.

Prominent among those who were present included Satish Kumar (JE), Surjeet Singh (Mandal President), Narinder Pal Singh, Abishek Salathia, Ajay, Surjit, Sajan Gupta and Pintu.

Randhawa said that water

is a fundamental necessity, and the Jal Jeevan Mission is transforming lives by ensuring piped water connections in every home. This 450-metre pipeline will resolve the water scarcity issue in Salaria Mohalla and provide relief to the people who have been struggling for a reliable water supply, he said.

The MLA further highlighted the unprecedented development in J&K under BJP rule, where major infrastructural projects have been executed at an accelerated pace.

He assured that the government is committed to ensuring that all rural and urban areas get access to quality water supply, with proper monitoring to prevent leaks and wastage.

Randhawa reiterated his resolve to continue working for the welfare of the people and urged residents to support the Modi government's vision of a "New India", where basic amenities like water, electricity, and sanitation reach every citizen.

## JU, University of Life sign MoU to promote research, skill development

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant move to strengthen academic collaboration and enhance skill development, the Department of Buddhist Studies, University of Jammu (JU), and the University of Life, a research and training organization (MSME), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote research in applied Buddhist principles, psychology, and practices.

This collaborative effort marks the first-ever initiative to explore the application of Buddhist studies in addressing psychological and mental health challenges.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, JU



Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar JU and Shilpa Gupta, Founder, University of Life after signing MoU.

and Shilpa Gupta, Founder, University of Life, in the presence of faculty members and scholars.

The agreement establishes a framework for joint research projects, academic exchanges, and skill-based programs to benefit students, researchers,

and the community.

Dr. Neeraj Sharma highlighted the significance of the partnership, stating, "This collaboration brings together academic insight and practical expertise to create impactful learning experiences. We are confident that the joint efforts will yield

valuable research outcomes and contribute to the holistic development of our students."

Shilpa Gupta expressed her optimism about the initiative, saying, "The MoU paves the way for innovative research and practical applications of Buddhist principles. We believe

this partnership will play a crucial role in addressing mental health challenges while opening new horizons for our students."

The agreement outlines several key initiatives, including joint research projects, interactive workshops, and academic seminars. The programs are designed to promote the growth of knowledge systems and modern psychological practices, ensuring a well-rounded learning experience for participants.

The event was attended by faculty members, including Prof. Mohd. Reyaz Ahmad, Head, Department of Buddhist Studies, along with Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Dr. Sonia Jasrotia, and Dr. Rohit Sharma.

## Hundreds of people throng Shiv Shakti Mandir on 22nd Annual Hawan

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hundreds of people from all walks of life thronged Shiv Shakti Mandir on the 22nd Annual Hawan, which was performed in Mandir Complex at Sector-1, Pamposh Colony, Janipur, here today.

The function was organized by Shiv Shakti Mandir Sanstha under the supervision of President JL Banzai and other members of the Sanstha for the betterment of the Hindu community and world peace.

The programme commenced with Kalash Pooja, which was followed by Mahayagya, puran ahuti and satsang by devotees.

A large number of people



Devotees performing Hawan at Shiv Shakti Mandir.

from different walks of life participated in the function and sought blessings of Lord Shiva and Mahmaya Jagat Amba.

Vice President of the Sanstha Subash Sharma,

Vedic Guru and General Secretary of the Sanstha Jai Krishen Khar, Surinder Sharma, Raveesh Mengi, BK Mujoo, Rattan Kalla, RK Bhan, AK Saproo, Kohli Sahab, Lalit Luthra,

Chander Chawla, TS Negi, Anil Shishu, Ashish Langoo, Baldev (Temple priest), Bupinder Jamwal, Ramesh Sawhney and many others were present on the occasion.

"Jammu and Kashmir is the Union Territory of saints and the bonds of amity has given it a distinct identity which needs to be promoted and maintained at all costs", JL Banzai, President of Shiv Shakti Mandir Sanstha said.

He also appealed to the youth to stand together and defeat the nefarious designs of the trouble mongers who are trying to disturb the peaceful atmosphere in the Union Territory of J&K.

He asked the devotees to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood as this is the key for the development of the country in general and Union Territory in particular. "We all are proud to be citizens of the largest and vibrant democracy of the world and action should be taken against those who try to create problems for the nation", Vedic Guru JK Khar maintained.

In the end, JK Khar, General Secretary of the Sanstha expressed gratitude to people for making this annual function a grand success.

Later, a Bhandara was organized for the devotees residing in Janipur and surrounding areas.

## Divya Kala Mela to begin in Jammu from today

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A unique exhibition showcasing the talents and craftsmanship of Divyang entrepreneurs and artisans from across the country, Divya Kala Mela, will commence in Jammu on February 14. The event, organised by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, through the National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation, will continue till February 24.

Addressing a press conference on Thursday, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of NDFDC, Naveen Shah announced the details of the event, emphasising its role in economically empowering persons with disabilities (PwDs). Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, who was also present, encouraged citizens to participate and support the initiative.

The 11-day fair will feature products from around 100 Divyang artisans and entrepreneurs representing nearly 20 states and Union Territories. The exhibition will include handicrafts, handlooms, embroidery, home décor, eco-friendly goods, clothing, stationery, toys, gifts, personal accessories, jewellery, packaged food and organic products.



A variety of regional cuisines will also be available at the venue.

The Divya Kala Mela will be open daily from am to 9:00 pm and the inaugural ceremony on February 14 at 4:00 pm will be graced by the Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment alongside other dignitaries.

CMD NDFDC, Naveen Shah highlighted that the event aligns with the 'Vocal for Local' initiative, providing a national platform for Divyang artisans to market their products. Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar reiterated the importance of public participation in fostering an inclusive and empowered society.

## Income Tax Deptt, Deptt of Registration J&K organise Outreach Programme



### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Directorate of Income Tax (I&CI), Jammu, in collaboration with Inspector General Registration, J&K, on Thursday organized a training cum awareness programme on third party compliance management and filing of SFT -012. SFT -12 stands for Statement of Financial Transactions and capturing the details of sale and purchase of Immovable property filed by SROs. The idea for the joint training programme was conceived in the last outreach programme held in Srinagar on 7th of November 2024 between Anshuman Sharma, IRS, Director of Income Tax, I&CI, Chandigarh, and Bashir Ahmad Bhat, IRS, Inspector General of Registration, J&K. The genesis being, frequent and repetitive errors that occurred in filing of SFTs

by the respective SROs. These errors not only increased the compliance burden for the SROs but also burdened the IT systems of the Income Tax Department. The quality of data filed left a lot to be desired.

G.J.Singh, Registrar Udhampur, delivered the welcome address and exhorted the officials present to imbibe the finer points and nuances critical to filing of complete, accurate and error free SFTs.

Parvesh Khajuria, ITO (I&CI), Jammu made a detailed presentation and apprised about the requirements of third party compliance. He highlighted the importance in collection of financial intelligence and its role in national development. He also clarified the doubts raised by the participants.

With respect to SFT filing, Jatin Malhotra, CA,

the resource person explained in detail the process of filing SFT-012. He also addressed the practical issues faced by SRO during the filing of SFTs. He stressed on the important role that reporting entities, especially the SROs, play in collecting data of financial transactions.

G J Singh proposed a formal vote of thanks and expressed his gratitude to the Directorate of Income Tax (I&CI), Chandigarh for organizing this programme. IG registration Bashir Ahmad Bhat requested to continue this collaboration so as to improve the skill set of the officers.

Jasmeet Singh, Principal Revenue Training Institute, Rajeev Magotra, Additional DC Rajouri and SROs of Jammu province, staff of IG (Registration), J&K participated in the program.

## H&UDD Commissioner Secretary inaugurates orientation prog on 'Conservation, Rejuvenation of Water Bodies'

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), Mandeep Kaur, on Thursday inaugurated a one day orientation programme on 'Conservation and Rejuvenation of Water Bodies in J&K' held under AMRUT 2.0 Mission at Udyog Bhawan, here.

The event was attended by the eminent conservation experts from Indian National Trust for Art Culture and Heritage (INTACH), University faculty, HoDs of Housing & Urban Development Department and officers and engineers from Urban Local Bodies, Jal Shakti Department and UEED. While the Kashmir based HoDs participated online.

Pankaj Kumar Sharma, Mission Director, AMRUT 2.0, gave a brief presentation about the National Water Missions besides the progress made under AMRUT 2.0 Mission in J&K.

He apprised the participants that AMRUT 2.0 marks a renewed and forti-



fied effort under the Government of India's flagship mission towards creating sustainable and water-secure urban spaces. This orientation programme aims to foster awareness, collaboration and practical solutions for achieving these goals, he added. He further informed that the total central assistance of Rs. 867 crore has been committed by the Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

The Commissioner Secretary H&UDD, appreciated the expertise shared by Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH, New Delhi;

Salim Beg Convenor INTACH J&K, and Dr. Deepika Salathia, Department of Environmental Sciences University of Jammu. She asked all the participants from Engineering Department including ULBs and UEEDs to get their expertise translated into meaningful work on conservation and rejuvenation of water bodies. She stressed on devising innovative, community driven and technical sound approaches to save these water bodies.

Mandeep Kour further appreciated that this orientation programme offers a unique opportunity to learn from each other's

experiences, engage in meaningful dialogue and chart a path towards tangible solutions that can transform urban water management practices.

She apprised that the Jammu University has done listing of all water bodies and there is need to conserve them by applying nature based solutions with the help of conservation experts.

Convenor INTACH J&K, Saleem Beg, highlighted the role of INTACH in conservation of Natural Heritage Projects.

Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director Natural Heritage Division, INTACH New Delhi, in his address, highlighted the

issues and challenges being faced in conservation of the Water bodies due to rapid urbanisation and changing climatic conditions. He emphasised on the fact that concreting should immediately be stopped instead traditional method of stone pitching with earth work be used to ensure survival of lakes.

Jagdish Raj Hans, Chief Town Planner, Jammu, presented detailed acts, rules and regulations in the matter and gave insight into the importance of Urban Planning to ward off stress on the water bodies.

Dr. Dipika Slathia, Professor Environmental Sciences, JU, gave a detailed presentation on type of water bodies, threats and their conservation in Jammu.

S. M. Sahni, Convenor, INTACH Jammu Chapter, said that the Housing & Urban Development Department has identified the challenges and issues in conservation of water bodies and initiated many steps to resolve these in a time bound manner.